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5-7-04

Alfred Wier 5-7-04

SIGNATURE

DATE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Frank Wier
Serial No. : 10/783,180
Filing Date : February 20, 2004
For : BELT RETRACTOR COMPRISING
A TENSIONING DEVICE
Art Unit : Not yet assigned
Examiner : Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket : TRW (REPA) 6956

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, and in compliance with CFR §1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, pending applications, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. Applicant(s) make no admission that the documents are prior art to the present invention.
2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a corresponding U.S. Patent is enclosed, or an English abstract, or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth on an attached sheet.

3. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(b) this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

(a) Within three months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.

(b) Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

(c) After the period set forth in 37 CFR §1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

1) A certification is given below,

2) Enclosed is a check covering the fee (\$180.00) set forth in §1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or

3) Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

(d) After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. The required certification and fee is indicated below.

1) Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) \$180, or

2) Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

4. Certification (if applicable):

(a) The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

(b) The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry no item of information contained in the Statement, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, fees underpaid, or credit any overpayment with regard to this Statement to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

6. Concise Explanation (if needed):

(1) Below is a Concise Statement of Relevance of enclosed non-English language document(s).

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

6,318,662

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DE 201 13 773 U1

See attached English abstract.

DE 101 19 753 A1

Corres. to U.S. Publication No. 2001/0040199 (copy enclosed).

DE 44 15 103 A1

Corres. to U.S. Patent No. 5,641,131 (copy enclosed)

Respectfully submitted,


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| FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 6-89) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. TRW(REPA)6956 | SERIAL NO. 10/783,180 | |
|--|-----------------|-------|----------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) MAY 10 2004 (Initials: F.W.) | | | | APPLICANT: Frank Wier | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE: 2-20-04 | GROUP: | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | 6,318,662 | 11/01 | Hori et al | | | |
| | 2001 0040199 | 11/01 | Takehara et al | | | |
| | 5,641,131 | 6/97 | Schmid et al | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB CLASS | TRANSLATION |
| | 20113773 | 6/02 | GERMANY | | | YES |
| | 10119753 | 11/01 | GERMANY | | | NO |
| | 4415103 | 4/95 | GERMANY | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | |
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| | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | |
| EXAMINER: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner. | | | | | | |